14.35 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, the House will take up Matters under Rule 377.

Title: Need to release funds for payment of honorarium at enhanced rates to Anganwadi workers in the State of Gujarat.

SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR (VADODARA): The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) is being implemented at grass root level by the Anganwadi workers who are honorary workers and receive the negligible honorarium for the services they offer. Increase in honorarium of Anganwadi workers have been announced in the earlier Union Budget but not yet released to the State Government of Gujarat. This is a long pending demand from the State of Gujarat.

I urge the Central Government for the early release of increased honorarium amount to the Gujarat State.